

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OPIC-02 EB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-04

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DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:DLMACK:CFE

APPROVED BY EB/IFD/OIA:RJSMITH

OPIC:BHENDERSON

OPIC:CMIDDLETON (SUBST)

EB/IFD/OIA:DHSTEBBING

NEA/AFN:MWWILEY

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R 092204Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

UNCLAS STATE 222938

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OTRA, EINV, TS

SUBJECT: GOT EFFORTS ATTRACT U.S. PRIVATE INVESTMENT

REF: TUNIS 6157

1. CONVERSATIONS BY OPIC OFFICIALS WITH AMBASSADOR HEDDA AND MUSTAFA ZAAOUNI INDICATE FOLLOWING SERIES OF EVENTS WITH APPROXIMATE TIMING:

A. VISIT OF AMERICAN JOURNALISTS TO TUNISIA, NOVEMBER 17-23.

B. VISIT OF MIDDLETON AND/OR BIRD TO TUNIS TO LAY GROUND-WORK FOR AIM, EARLY NOVEMBER.

C. VISIT TO U.S. BY MINISTER OF PLAN AYARI, MID-JANUARY.

D. AIM, FEBRUARY.

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2. RE JOURNALISTS, OPIC HAS ASSISTED EMBASSY BY DRAWING UP LIST OF PROBABLE INVITEES AND ADVISING ON TYPE OF INVITATION LETTER AMBASSADOR MIGHT SEND. WE EXPECT THAT JOURNALISTS WILL DESIRE EMBASSY BRIEFING BUT BELIEVE THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR TRIP, WHICH BEING FINANCED BY GOT, SHOULD BE LEFT TO TUNISIANS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. DEPARTMENT WILL ENDEAVOR SEND LIST OF JOURNALISTS WHO PLAN MAKE

TRIP FOR USE OF EMBASSY AND PAO AS SOON AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE.

3. RE VISIT OF HIGH-LEVEL TUNISIAN DELEGATION, IF AYARI CANNOT MAKE TRIP IT IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE THAT HIS REPLACEMENT AS HEAD OF MISSION BE FLUENT SPEAKER OF ENGLISH. BELIEVE CHELLI WILL UNDERSTAND REASONS FOR THIS.

4. TENTATIVE ITINERARY FOR AYARI MISSION AS ENVISAGED BY HEDDA WOULD COMMENCE WITH TWO DAYS IN WASHINGTON FOLLOWED BY 2-3 DAYS IN EACH OF NEW YORK, CHICAGO AND SAN FRANCISCO. OPIC WILL PROVIDE MAJOR ASSISTANCE IN CHICAGO AND SAN FRANCISCO WITH TUNISIANS CARRYING THE BALL IN NEW YORK. OPIC AND DEPARTMENT WILL ENSURE APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON.

5. SEPTTEL WILL FOLLOW WITH REPLY TO TUNIS 5998. INGERSOLL

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